

Message Text

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42

ACTION ACDA-10

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USIE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 IO-13 L-03

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FM USNATO BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 301

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 6263

A. THE US WOULD GIVE WHATEVER US DRAFT GUIDANCE EMERGED IN RESPONSE TO THE FRG COMMENTS, NOT ONLY TO THE FRG AND UK, BUT ALSO TO THE BELGIAN DELEGATION. WE WOULD PRESENT OUR APPROACH TO THE BELGIANS AS OUR RESPONSE TO THE BELGIAN PROPOSAL AND AS ACCEPTANCE OF THE CORE OF THE BELGIAN PROPOSAL, I.E. THE TABLING OF PARTIAL DATA. THIS WILL COME AS GOOD NEWS TO THE BELGIANS, WHO WE BELIEVE ARE UNAWARE OF THE TEXT THE US HAS GIVEN TO THE FRG AND UK.

B. WE WOULD ALSO URGE THAT BELGIUM SUPPORT WITH THE OTHER ALLIES THE US DRAFT GUIDANCE IN THE INTEREST OF EARLY TABLING OF DATA. WE WOULD INFORM THE BELGIANS THAT WE INTENDED TO GIVE THE US DRAFT GUIDANCE TO THE DELEGATIONS OF THE OTHER MBFR PARTICIPANTS, WHICH HAVE THE BELGIAN SECRET

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TEXT. WE WOULD THEN ANTICIPATE A SERIES OF BILATERALS AMONG THE DELEGATIONS OF THE MBFR PARTICIPANTS REGARDING THE DRAFT GUIDANCE. IF IT WERE NECESSARY, WE WOULD SEE NO HARM IN ONE MEETING OF MBFR PARTICIPANTS, SINCE

OCCASIONAL "RUMP" MEETINGS ON SPECIAL SUBJECTS ARE AN ACCEPTED WAY OF DOING BUSINESS HERE. GIVEN THE GENERAL INTEREST AMONG THE ALLIES IN TABLING DATA, WE WOULD NOT ANTICIPATE PARTICULAR DIFFICULTIES, EXCEPT POSSIBLY ON THE QUESTION OF TABLING RED DATA. WASHINGTON MAY THEREFORE WISH TO GIVE US FALL-BACK LANGUAGE, SIMILAR TO THAT IN THE LONDON TRILATERAL TEXT, WHICH WOULD LEAVE THE DECISION ON TABLING OF RED DATA TO THE AHG, IN ORDER TO FACILITATE AGREEMENT ON NAC GUIDANCE.

∴ IT REMAINS TO BE DECIDED WHICH COUNTRY WILL MAKE THE APPROACH TO THE FRENCH. IT WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY IN OUR VIEW FOR ALL THE MBFR PARTICIPANTS TO APPROVE THE TEXT OF THE APPROACH TO THE FRENCH, SINCE WHOEVER MADE THE APPROACH WOULD ONLY NEED TO SPEAK FOR SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS. AT A MINIMUM, WHICHEVER COUNTRY WAS TO MAKE THE APPROACH SHOULD PROBABLY OBTAIN APPROVAL OF THE TEXT BY THE OTHER DIRECT PARTICIPANTS. THE INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS WOULD ONLY NEED TO KNOW THAT SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD BE MADE. IF ANY INDIRECT PARTICIPANT ASKED FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THE TEXT OF THE APPROACH TO THE FRENCH, SUCH A REQUEST SHOULD BE GRANTED.

D. ONCE THE APPROACH HAD BEEN MADE, AND THE LATTER TEXT WOULD BE TABLED IN SPC, MOST SUITABLY BY THE BELGIANS. IN VIEW OF THE ADVANCE ORCHESTRATION, IT SHOULD RECEIVE INSTANT APPROVAL, FIRST BY THE SPC AND THEN BY THE NAC.

5. FINALLY, IF THE FOREGOING IS TO WORK SMOOTHLY, WE BELIEVE THE NOVEMBER 18-19 BILATERAL SHOULD REACH A VERY CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT US AND FRG OFFICIALS MAY TELL THE OTHER ALLIES ABOUT THIS MEETING. THE FRG HAS TOLD BOTH THE BELGIANS AND DUTCH THAT THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE.

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THE FRG HAS COMMITTEED ITSELF TO SPEAK AGAIN AT LEAST WITH THE BELGIAN DELEGATION AFTER THE US-FRG BILATERAL (REF F). WE BELIEVE THE MOST THAT EITHER THE US OR THE FRG SHOULD TELL THE OTHER ALLIES IS THAT THEY HAD A THOROUGH DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUES, AND THAT BOTH EXPECT TO OFFER COMMENTS ON THE BELGIAN PROPOSAL SOON. THE OTHER ALLIES UNDOUBTEDLY ASSUME THAT THE US AND FRG CONTINUE TO DISCUSS MBFR MATTERS. HOWEVER, THE MORE THE OTHER ALLIES LEARN ABOUT THE SUBSTANCE OF THESE DISCUSSIONS, THE MORE EXCLUDED THEY WILL FEEL, AND THE MORE INCLINED THEY WILL BE TOWARD IMPATIENCE ABOUT THEIR OWN LACK OF PARTICIPATION IN SUCH DISCUSSIONS. STREATOR

SECRET

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